

1. (Three Times Amended) A nickel-base alloy resistant to carburizing, oxidizing, nitriding and/or sulfidizing environments, consisting of, in weight percent, 42 to 58 nickel, 21.5 to 28 chromium, 12 to 18 cobalt, 4.5 to 9.5 molybdenum, 2 to 3.5 aluminum, 0.05 to 2 titanium, at least one microalloying agent selected from the group consisting of 0.005 to 0.1 yttrium and 0.01 to 0.6 zirconium, 0.01 to 0.15 carbon, 0 to 0.01 boron, 0 to 4 iron, 0 to 0.4 manganese, 0 to 1 silicon, 0 to 1 hafnium, 0 to 0.4 niobium, 0 to 0.1 nitrogen, incidental impurities and deoxidizers.

4. (Twice Amended) The alloy of claim 1 including 43 to 57 nickel, 21.5 to 27 chromium and 12.5 to 17.5 cobalt.

5. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 1 including 2.25 to 3.5 aluminum and 0.06 to 1.6 titanium.

6. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 1 including 0.01 to 0.5 zirconium, 0.01 to 0.14 carbon and 0.0001 to 0.01 boron.

7. (Twice Amended) A nickel-base alloy resistant to carburizing, oxidizing, nitriding and/or sulfidizing environments, consisting of, in weight percent, 43 to 57 nickel, 21.5 to 27 chromium, 12.5 to 17.5 cobalt, 4.5 to 9 molybdenum, 2.25 to 3.5 aluminum, 0.06 to 1.6 titanium, at least one microalloying agent selected from the group consisting of 0.01 to 0.08 yttrium and 0.01 to 0.5 zirconium, 0.01 to 0.14 carbon, 0.0001 to 0.01 boron, 0 to 3 iron, 0 to 0.4 manganese, 0.01 to 1 silicon, 0.01 to 0.8 hafnium, 0.00001 to 0.08 nitrogen, incidental impurities and deoxidizers.

D3 10. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 7 including 44 to 56 nickel, 22 to 27 chromium, 13 to 17 cobalt and 5 to 8.5 molybdenum.

11. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 7 including 2.5 to 3.5 aluminum and 0.08 to 1.2 titanium.

12. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 7 including 0.02 to 0.5 zirconium, 0.01 to 0.12 carbon and 0.01 to 0.009 boron.

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13. (Twice Amended) A nickel-base alloy resistant to carburizing, oxidizing, nitriding and/or sulfidizing environment, consisting of, in weight percent, 44 to 50 nickel, 22 to 27 chromium, 13 to 17 cobalt, 5 to 8.5 molybdenum, 2.5 to 3.5 aluminum, 0.08 to 1.2 titanium, 0.01 to 0.07 yttrium, 0.02 to 0.5 zirconium, 0.01 to 0.12 carbon, 0.001 to 0.009 boron, 0.1 to 2.5 iron, 0 to 0.4 manganese, 0.02 to 0.5 silicon, 0 to 0.7 hafnium, 0.0001 to 0.05 nitrogen, incidental impurities and deoxidizers.

D4 16. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 13 including 45 to 55 nickel, 22 to 26 chromium, 14 to 16 cobalt and 5 to 8 molybdenum.

17. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 13 including 2.75 to 3.5 aluminum and 0.1 to 1 titanium.

18. (Once Amended) The alloy of claim 13 including 0.01 to 0.06 yttrium, 0.02 to 0.4 zirconium, 0.02 to 0.1 carbon and 0.003 to 0.008 boron.

19. (Once Amended)

The nickel base alloy of claim 13 containing

2.75 to 3.5 aluminum, 0.003 to 0.008 boron, 0.02 to 0.1 carbon, 14 to 16 cobalt, 22 to 26 chromium, 0.5 to 2 iron, 0 to 0.5 hafnium, 5 to 8 molybdenum, 0.01 to 0.05 nitrogen, 0 to 0.2 niobium, 45 to 55 nickel, 0.005 to 0.4 silicon, 0.1 to 1 titanium, 0.001 to 0.06 yttrium and 0.02 to 0.4 zirconium.

Please add the following new claim 20:

--20. A nickel-base alloy resistant to carburizing, oxidizing, nitriding and sulfidizing environments consisting of, in weight percent, 42 to 58 nickel, 21.5 to 28 chromium, 12 to 18 cobalt, 4.5 to 9.5 molybdenum, 2 to 3.5 aluminum, 0.05 to 2 titanium, 0.005 to 0.1 yttrium, 0.01 to 0.6 zirconium, 0.01 to 0.15 carbon, 0 to 0.01 boron, 0 to 4 iron, 0 to 1 manganese, 0 to 1 silicon, 0 to 1 hafnium, 0 to 0.4 niobium, 0 to 0.1 nitrogen, incidental impurities and deoxidizers.--

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-7, 10-13 and 16-19 are pending in the present application. All claims stand finally rejected in the Office Action of May 22, 2001. A Request For Continued Examination (RCE) is being concurrently filed with this submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. The Examiner's reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments made hereinabove, taken with the following remarks. A new independent claim 20 is also being added for the Examiner's consideration.

Claims 1, 4-7, 10-13 and 16-19 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over